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sporadic nature than of epidemic form, except at Hankau, where the deaths were numerous.

The universal exodus of foreigners from Nanking during the hot and unhealthy months of July and August lessens an outbreak among them, unless the disease runs into September and October, when the foreigners return.

The natives wash their fruit and vegetables in the stagnant, scum-covered pools and eat the food raw. They eat infected and decayed fruit and vegetables as well as articles exposed to fly dirt, and drink the water from pools, never making any pretense of boiling or filtering.

Missionary doctors have placarded the city with sanitary suggestions to safeguard against a cholera epidemic, but the suggestions are wholly disregarded.

Report from Shanghai—Decline in cholera epidemic at Hankau—Cholera in Shanghai—Cholera and plague in Wuchang.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Ransom reports, September 1:

The epidemic of cholera at Hankau has been controlled, or at least the disease has declined to insignificant proportions. A conservative estimate from reliable sources places the mortality at 2,500 persons, including 12 Europeans.

Cholera and plague are reported as severely epidemic at Wuchang, across the river from Hankau, where the mortality is claimed to have been in the neighborhood of 2,000 natives per week. The principal sufferers were the soldiers of the Chinese garrison.

The prevalence of these diseases, particularly bubonic plague, is interesting from a quarantine standpoint, chiefly owing to the fact that probably a majority of the shipments of wool, hides, skins, albumen, feathers, etc., originate in and about Hankau, some such shipments being packed and loaded direct on steamships sailing from there for American ports. The larger part of this class of cargo is, however, shipped to Shanghai in native bales and repacked and shipped from here.

Cholera has been more or less prevalent at most of the Yangtsze River ports between here and Hankau during the past month, and the disease is now present in Shanghai among the natives, chiefly along the water front. No foreigners have so far contracted the disease this year in this city; hence it is not officially reported. Plague has never gained a foothold here, and smallpox is at this time in abeyance.

CUBA.

Report from Cienfuegos—Inspection and fumigation of vessels—Sanitary conditions.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Suarez reports, September 21:

Week ended September 19.

Bills of health issued.....	3
Vessels inspected prior to sailing.....	3
Vessels fumigated.....	2
Members of crews inspected.....	137

No quarantinable diseases have been reported during the week and health conditions continue good.